

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club **WIRELESS**



2006



Ed, W1EJ, and Steve, K2IYQ, at Camp Via Filed Day, 1997

FROM THE TOP

Greetings to all VOMARC members. By the time you get the newsletter it will be meeting

night and the next weekend will be Field Day. Our speaker this month will be Adam McLaughlin, KD6POC. At the meeting I will have a checklist for Field Day.

Jim, K6UUW, can go over it with us to make sure we have all the gear.

ACS members sign up for the 4th of July Parade with Ken, N6KM. JULY 19th meeting is our club picnic at the Police Recreation Area behind the Police Station at 175 First Street West. Dinner starts at 6 pm, and remember to bring the family as guests.

Be sure to wish Ed, KA6OFR, "Happy Birthday". His birthday was 6/8/06.

The June meeting on the 21st will be at the Sonoma Fire Station at 630 2nd Street West.

See you there.
Dan, KG6LJN. President

"The official ACS uniform is the orange vest, hat and nothing else."

N6KM

FIELD DAY 2006

It's that time again.

W6AJF will be on the air for the weekend of June 24, 25. All VOMARC members are invited to participate in the fun. The object is to exercise our ability to set up HF stations using non-commercial power at a location other than our homes. Stations from all parts of the nation will be participating, so we want to contact as many as possible. Points are earned on the number of contacts and the mode used.

As done in the past, we plan on using three stations. One will be devoted to CW/PSK-31 using a Hex beam. One will be on SSB and another will be on SSB, 40/75 meters using a Windom antenna.

The rules allow a fourth station called GOTA (Get-On-Air). This station can be operated by Novice, Technician or non-hams, provided there is a control operator. We can use the G5RV antenna for this station. All transmitters will be less than 150 watts.

Logs will be maintained on computer using LOG-EQF software. If you need to load that program, call me. It's important to not use two different stations on the same band/mode. This prevents duplicates (dupes).

The location will be Maxwell park, next to the Boys & Girls club. Overnight stay is possible for a few individuals.

Saturday night dinner will be provided for a small fee.

Set up will start at 8:00, Saturday morning.

Hope to see you all there.

73, Jim, K6UUW



VOMARC MEETING MINUTES **May 17, 2006**

Minutes of VOMARC
held at SDC 7:30 hrs

Attendance:

Eileen	KG6QNT	Gene	K
I6DHH			
Rachel	KI5DHG	Simon	K
B6CLV			
Jim	K6UUW	Declan	K
A2QQO			
Ken	N6KM	Ed	
W1EJ			
Dan	KG6LJN	Darrel	
WD6BOR			
Ed	KA6OFR	John	W
6TWQ			
Joel	NN6J	Dick	K
F6FZM			
Matt	KI6ARY	Mike	
WB6TMH			
Tim	KG6ASY	George	K
6ITE			
Frank	KD6KVL		
Alan	K6KLL		

INTRODUCTIONS

MINUTES:

April minutes accepted as printed.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Hamfest net was \$587.90 . Over 100 breakfast were served. There is a need to inventory equipment again this year. The equipment is part of the club's assets. Our major expenditure is Insurance of \$360.00 per year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Summer schedule:

June at the Sonoma Fire Dept for a presentation by Adam Mclaughlin.

July 4th Parade

19th July, Club Picnic at Police Station recreation area, 6PM.

Bring the family.

AUGUST Chuck will present PSK at SFD or at SDC. Stay tuned for the location.

NEW BUSINESS:

Hit the Road Jack-- on Sunday June 4th. See Eileen for details. ACS uniform; Street clothes, "Orange vest, Sonoma County hat, ID tag, nothing else."

Hams who work disasters need FEMA training in message handling to be successful and useful during a FEMA Disaster.

Tim Smith, KG6ASY, is moving to Nevada. A card was presented to him from VOMARC members wishing him GOOD LUCK in this new endeavors. He will be missed.

Glen R. Smith's, N6CX, daughter has donated his 60 ft tower for any who wishes it. Glen was an Extra class ham who is now a silent key (SK).

Field Day, 24th and 25th JUNE. Set up at Maxwell Park, 8 am Saturday. Jim Hill, K6UUW, is coordinator. Rules will be presented at the next meeting..

Meeting adjourned @ 2118 hrs.

Submitted by Dave, KD6FIL, VP

OTHER TIDBITS

Dave, KD6FIL, and Jim, K6UUW, got the EOC Windom antenna down, so that it will be available for Field Day. We can get some more 100 amp-hr batteries for free if we want. Jim has two already and has been using Henry's old solar panel to keep them charged. He has been testing the ICOM 718 from the EOC and running it off of the batteries to get it ready for Field Day.

VOMARC will also be operating a portable station at Sonoma Skypark Airport on Saturday, June 17, from 11 am to 3 pm for the airport's annual Family Fun Day. Jim, K6UUW, has organized the public demonstration of ham radio, and will have a hex beam up on his military surplus telescoping mast.

"The official ACS uniform is the orange vest, hat and nothing else."

N6KM

ON CALL **Sonoma Valley ACS June 2006**

This month's subjects have to do with net operations. Two topics come to mind after listening to our Monday night net and the nets conducted by other Sonoma Op Area units and some of the nets of adjoining operational areas.

1. Once you check in to a net, don't leave without letting the net control station know. Our ACS SOP (page 25) provides: "Never leave a net without checking out.

If you know you will be unable to participate for an interval, tell that to the NCS before you leave.

Check in with the NCS when you return.

Never depart the end of your shift without making certain that the NCS knows that you are leaving."

These are good rules that make the net work smoothly. If you want to check in and leave immediately because dinner is on the table or you must go to another engagement, just tell the NCS. Thanks.

2. When checking in to the net, it is most often not necessary to use phonetics to make your call

understood.

Communications quality on VHF and UHF is usually good and, besides, the NCS knows the stations who usually check in and will likely have no problem recognizing the call.

If you do need to use phonetics, USE the approved ones, the ITU standard. Do not make up new words for the phonetics. The whole point of using phonetics is to substitute word recognition for syllable recognition. The English alphabet has many letters that sound the same ... with the long 'EEE' sound, and these letters are very hard to distinguish when only the letter itself is pronounced. Saying 'E' could easily be confused with 'T' or 'D'. However, if you say 'ECHO' for E and 'TANGO' for T using phonetics, there is little chance of confusion.

Our nets always sound better when we operate smoothly and professionally. Phonetics are an important tool for us to use.

Ken McTaggart N6KM, ACS Unit Leader

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Frank C. Jones - W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dan Sorrick, KG6LJN - President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL- Vice-President

Joan Brady, W6WXU - Secretary

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Treasurer

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Membership Chair

Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - ACS

Jan Bush, AE6FQ - Webmeister

Joel Nadler, NN6J - VE Liaison

Jim Hill, K6UUW, Elmer Coordinator

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:

<http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

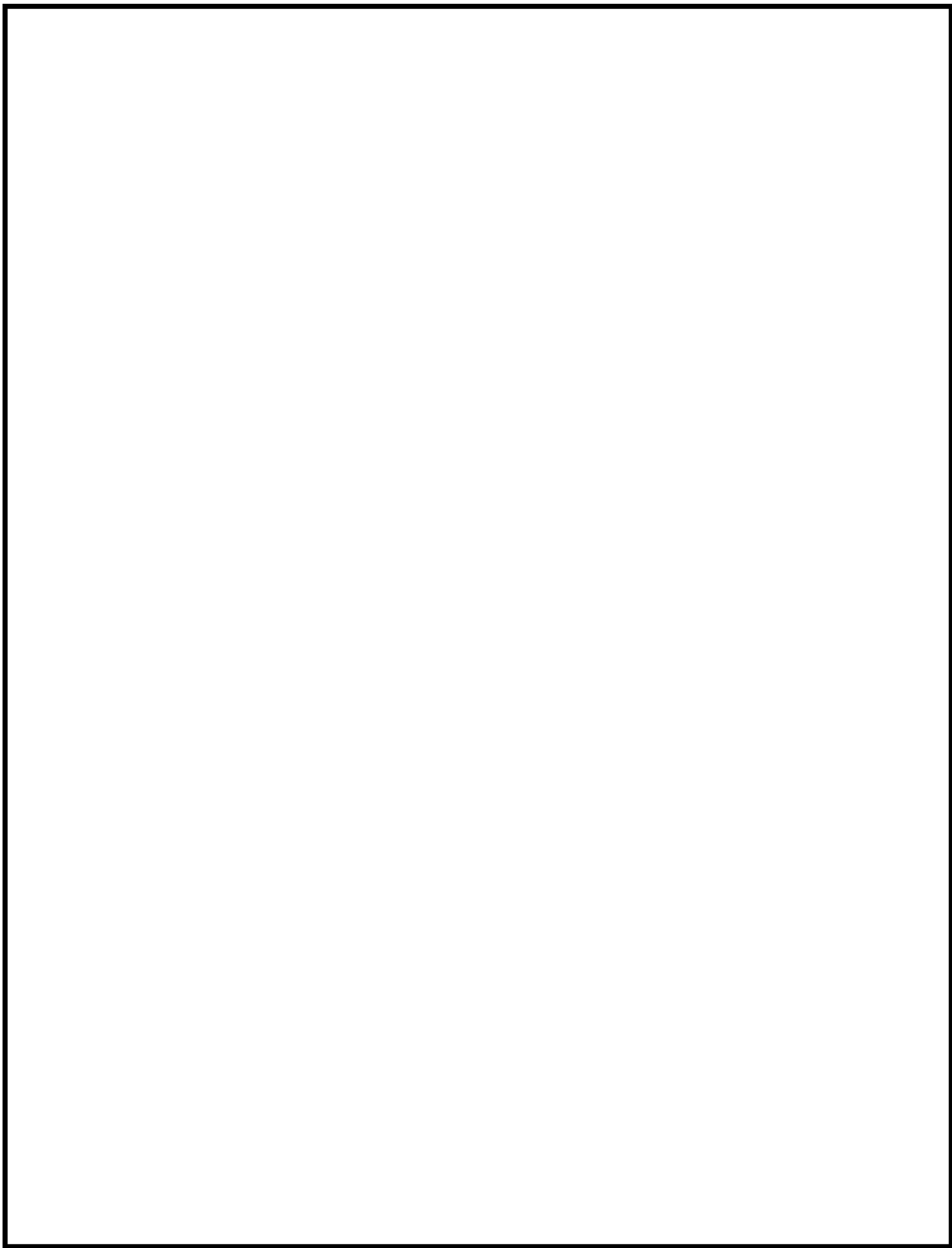
ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of
material may be sent to:
wd6bor@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon
ARC**

175 First Street

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**NOTICE!!! THE APRIL VOMARC MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE SONOMA
FIRE HOUSE, 630 SECOND STREET WEST
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2006 Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: \$_____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, 402 Fourth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**